

1 substituted for the original abstract. Consequently, the objection
2 to the abstract no longer is considered applicable; and withdrawal
of this objection is respectfully requested.

3 The Examiner also objected to the disclosure on the ground of
4 informalities concerning the identification of the mold block 18,
5 or mold plates 18, as these terms were used in the paragraph on
6 Page 6 beginning at Line 8 and extending through Line 20. In order
7 to clarify the terminology, the reference to "plates" on Line 11 of
8 this paragraph has been changed to "blocks". These blocks then
9 correspond to the mold block 18 in this paragraph and the mold
10 block 16 of the subsequent paragraph, beginning on Line 21 of Page
11 6. Each of the mold blocks 16 and 18, however, carry mold plates
12 identified as plates 18A and 18B in the paragraph under
13 consideration. A correction was made to an inadvertent omission of
14 the letter "A" after "plate 18" appearing on Line 14 of this
15 paragraph. Applicant respectfully submits that the terminology now
16 is consistent throughout the specification, and with the drawings
17 originally submitted with the application.

18 Original Claims 1,2,14 and 16 were rejected as anticipated by
19 the United States patent to Kashiwa No. 5,773,049. Dependent
20 Claims 9 to 11 were rejected as unpatentable over a combination of
21 this patent or the patent to Nesch taken in combination with two
22 others of the cited patents.

23 Claims 3 to 8, 12, 13 and 15 were objected to as being
24 dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as
25 allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the
26

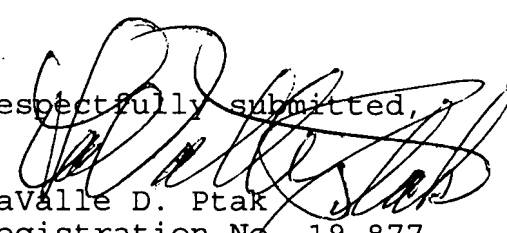
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1 limitations of the base claim, and any intervening claims. Claim
2 17 (which replaces original independent Claim 1) is allowed Claim
3 12 rewritten in independent form. As a consequence, this new
4 independent claim is considered allowable for the reasons that
5 Claim 12 originally was considered allowable.

6 All of the dependent claims now appearing in this application
7 are dependent, either directly or through one another, upon allowed
8 Claim 17. As a consequence, applicant respectfully submits that
9 all of the rejections originally made to some of the claims of this
10 application are moot, and that all of the claims now appearing in
11 the application are patentable. The dependent claims have been
12 amended to properly reflect their dependency, either directly or
13 through one another, on new independent Claim 17.

14 Since there are no claims remaining in this application which
15 are rejected, applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims
16 now appearing in the application are patentable. As a consequence,
17 applicant respectfully requests allowance of all of the claims in
18 the application; and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully
19 solicited.

20 Respectfully submitted,

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